



Division of Forestry Careers

What profession affects every aspect of your life, every day? Chances are your answer wasn't *forestry*. But can you imagine life with no clean water, no homes for people or wildlife, no places to enjoy the outdoors? The Kentucky Division of Forestry (KDF) has been working hard to ensure that neither you nor future generations, have to imagine such a life. KDF offers a variety of careers for people interested in working indoors and out, with people and nature. Check out the KDF website at www.forestry.ky.gov • for a list of current available positions.

Forester:

Foresters provide technical assistance to private forest landowners in the management of their woodland. The Foresters will develop a forest stewardship plan based on the landowner's goals for their property and provide recommendations on how the landowner can meet their goals. They must have a working knowledge of all aspects of forest management, botany, ecology, forest soils, entomology, forest pathology, hydrology, and wildlife management. A four-year degree in forestry from a college or university is required.

Ranger Tech:

Forest Ranger Technicians work in a county or counties with responsibility for fire control, timber harvesting compliance, forest stewardship assistance, insect and disease monitoring, tree seedling sales, and forestry environmental education. Graduate of a college or university or an associate's degree in the biological or physical sciences is required.

Forest Health Program Specialist:

The Forest Health Program Specialist is a forest entomologist/pathologist. They provide expertise, training, and guidance on forest insect pest problems on Kentucky's forestlands, conduct aerial and terrestrial

forest insect surveys, and provide assistance in identifying and treating forest tree diseases. They educate the public and other division employees about important forest insect pests and harmful tree diseases. This position requires a 4-year degree in forestry or entomology or forest pathology.

Forest Stewardship Program Specialist:

The Forest Stewardship Program Specialist coordinates planning, development and evaluation of the Forest Stewardship and Forest Management Programs at the state level. This includes tracking program accomplishments of field foresters, managing appropriate grants, participating in state and federal cost share programs, and represents the division on the USDA State Technical Committee. A four-year degree in forestry is required.

Fire Management Chief:

The Fire Management Chief coordinates all aspects of the division's fire management program including operations, training, law enforcement, volunteer fire department assistance, timberland tax program, and federal excess property program. They develop and implement division policies for the fire management program, and develop and administer program budgets, provide fire training and track fire qualifications for division employees. A four-year degree in forestry plus 3+ years of professional experience is required.

Forest Fire Program Specialist:

The Forest Fire Program Specialist provides assistance to field personnel in the implementation of fire management guidelines. They coordinate purchase and distribution of fire supplies and equipment and maintain inventories, perform fire readiness reviews and incident reviews in the field, maintain and coordinate fire statistics, law enforcement reports, and fire database. They administer the Volunteer Fire Assistance (VFA) program according to state and federal guidelines. Four-year degree in forestry and three years of professional experience is required.

Timber Harvesting Compliance Program Specialist:

The Timber Harvesting Compliance Program Specialist works with loggers to ensure compliance with water quality regulations related to logging activities and works with division employees to perform the timber harvest inspection process. They must have a working knowledge of logging operations, economics, water quality issues and behavior, best management practices, basic engineering and be able to effectively communicate with people from different backgrounds. This position requires a forestry degree plus professional experience.

Forest Resource Program Specialist:

The Forest Resource Program Specialist works with different segments of the forest products industry. They offer resource and technology transfer support on needs as different as equipment and plant trouble-shooting to marketing both raw materials and products to resource availability and analysis. This specialized area requires a working knowledge of basic wood processing operations, marketing, some business management, basic engineering and equipment knowledge, and effective communication and networking skills. This position requires a four-year forestry degree plus professional experience.

Urban Forestry Specialist:

The Urban Forestry Specialist implements the Urban and Community Forestry Assistance Grant Program. This involves providing technical assistance to cities, counties, educational institutions, local tree boards, nonprofit organizations, and others with an interest in urban forestry. They administer and promote the Tree City USA program. A four-year degree in urban forestry or forestry is required.

Environmental Education Specialist:

The Environmental Education (EE) Specialist coordinates public relation activities for the division and oversees the division's involvement in the National Future Farmers of America (FFA) Forestry competition and the state Envirothon. They develop, locate and update educational materials for teachers/educators, division employees and ensure all materials are compatible with Kentucky educational standards. They also serve as the state coordinator for the Project Learning Tree program. The position requires a four-year degree in a natural resource science.

Landowner Education Specialist:

The Landowner Education Specialist develops and coordinates educational programs for forest landowners on the importance of sustainable forests. They promote and attend forestry/farm field days, coordinate with other agencies to assure long-term forest conservation programs, and maintain and manage the Kentucky Big Tree and Roots of Commonwealth programs. A four-year degree in forestry is required.



The Natural Resources and Environmental Protection Cabinet does not discriminate on the basis of race, color, national origin, sex, age, religion, or disability and provides, on request, reasonable accommodations including auxiliary aids and services necessary to afford an individual with a disability an equal opportunity to participate in all services, programs, and activities. For more information, contact the Division of Forestry at (502) 564-4496 between 8 a.m. and 4:30 p.m. EST. Hearing- and speech- impaired persons can contact the agency by using the Kentucky Relay Service, a toll-free telecommunication device for the deaf (TDD). For voice to TDD, call 1-800-648-6057. For TDD to voice, call 1-800-648-6056.